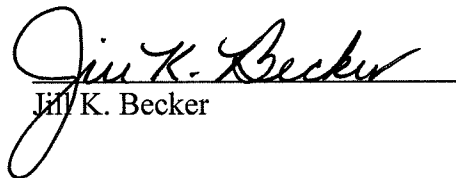


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Balazich et al. Confirmation No.: 3991  
Serial No.: 10/685,252 Group Art Unit: 2127  
Filed: 10/14/2003 Examiner: Unassigned  
Title: EMPLOYING HARDWARE TO TRACK DEPENDENCIES BETWEEN  
REQUEST GROUPS

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

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Date of Signature: October 31, 2007

To: Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Preliminary Amendment**

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application,  
as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2; and

**Remarks** begin on page 3.